



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer

At its meeting held May 10, 2005, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

“Assemblymembers Mike Gordon and Jerome Horton recently introduced Assembly Bill 717 (AB 717) which would require the California Department of Health Services to issue a special permit to the Centinela Airport Clinic to allow it to operate as an emergency receiving center, a freestanding nonhospital site for treatment of basic life support emergency patients.

“In the event of a disaster, terrorist attack, or other major event at the Los Angeles International Airport, the Centinela Airport Clinic’s proximity to the airport make it an important center for triage and basic life support levels of emergency care.

“Hospital emergency rooms in urban communities are increasingly overcrowded. Many of the patients that are transported to hospital emergency rooms are treated and released to their physician’s care, raising concerns that a hospital emergency room is an inappropriate setting for treatment of these patients. This inappropriate use of hospital emergency rooms threatens the health and safety of those whose lives that may depend upon them.

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“The County’s Department of Health Services indicates that AB 717 will improve the utilization of scarce emergency room resources through diversion of less seriously ill or injured patients to a more appropriate setting of care. The Department further indicates that AB 717 can be improved by amending it to specify that the Centinela Airport Clinic must comply with the policies and procedures of the local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency to receive basic life support patients as part of the 911 EMS system, and to increase reimbursement rates for physicians and ambulance service providers to match the level of care provided.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Went on record in support of Assembly Bill 717 (Gordon and Horton), legislation which would require the California Department of Health Services to issue a special permit to the Centinela Airport Clinic to allow it to operate as an emergency receiving center, a freestanding nonhospital site for treatment of basic life support emergency patients; and
2. Instructed the County’s Legislative Advocates in Sacramento to seek to amend the measure to specify that the Centinela Airport Clinic must comply with the policies and procedures of the local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency to receive basic life support patients as part of the 911 EMS system, and to increase reimbursement rates for physicians and ambulance service providers to match the level of care provided.

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